

Santa Clara County CalWORKs Plan Addendum Addressing the Welfare-to-Work Grant Program

1. Names of WtW Grant Partners

- ◆ 85% Grant Partners: NOVA Workforce Investment Board and Silicon Valley Workforce Investment Board
- ◆ 25% Grant Partner: The City of Gilroy
- ◆ 15% Grant Partner: NOVA Workforce Investment Board

2. Coordination Between CalWORKs and WtW Grant Partners

- The Santa Clara County CalWORKs program coordinates with all WtW partners to ensure that services are non-duplicative and relevant for the target population. CalWORKs participates in regularly scheduled meetings with all of the WtW grant partners to ensure that communication and collaboration occurs.
- Santa Clara County will serve all the eligible populations allowed by federal law. This includes services to non-custodial parents and youth aged 18 to 24 who were former recipients of foster care.
- The CalWORKs program has close links to the local child support agency [currently under the jurisdiction of the District Attorney (DA)]. Our county is one of the Non-Custodial Parent Demonstration sites and partnered with the DA to implement this program. This includes co-location of staff at county sites and monthly participation on a Non-Custodial Advisory to the program.

3. Coordination with the State WtW Matching Fund Dollars

Since 1997, the County's CalWORKs program has coordinated services with all of the WtW partners. In fact, the 1998 WtW plan submitted to the State was jointly developed by CalWORKs, NOVA, PIC and the Silicon Valley PIC (now Silicon Valley WIB). This plan delineates a mix of services that 1) addresses the needs of welfare clients as identified through the County's planning process and 2) complements WtW 15% and 25% program services.

The CDSS State match totaling \$652,758 is being managed by the CalWORKs program with the consensus agreement of both WIBs. These match funds are allocated as follows:

- 1. Non-Custodial Parent Program** **\$132,000**
To provide employment-related services and substance abuse services to non-custodial parents.
- 2. Assessment Services** **\$120,000**
This service includes the previewing of state-of-the-art vocational assessment tools, presenting the three best tools to service providers at a countywide symposium, and the purchase of the most appropriate tools for providers and CalWORKs.
- 3. KIOSK Project** **\$100,000**
This is a project to build off of NOVA's Connect KIOSK (touch tone in English, Spanish and Vietnamese) by expanding the database, purchasing and installing at key sites throughout the county.
- 4. Services to Former Foster Children Between the Ages of 18 to 24** **\$300,758**
Working in partnership with the County's Independent Living Program (ILP) and both WIBs, these youth will receive computer training and other short-term vocational training and employment services.

The above-referenced services complement the services funded by the 85% WtW Plan. This plan includes funding for our six (6) Neighborhood Self-Sufficiency Centers (NSSCs) and a variety of employer/employment services.

5. Mechanisms to Certify WtW Eligibility and Referrals to Service

The County has assigned an Eligibility Worker to certify eligibility for all 85%, 15%, and 25% clients. Further, the County refers all part-time employed CalWORKs clients to the NSSCs. The County also works with all the WtW partners to help recruit via sharing of client lists, targeted mailings, etc.

Overall, CalWORKs' relationship with WtW partners is solid with positive communication and collaboration. Plans are in the works to spend anticipated CDSS match "underrun" monies (once notified by the State) as follows:

1. **Augmentation to Former Foster Care Training** \$100,000
We can serve more clients.
2. **Funding to Coordinate Services for Family Unification Program (FUP) Clients** \$200,000
The FUP program is a partnership between the Housing Authority, Child Welfare and CalWORKs to assist hard-to-serve CalWORKs families in becoming stable and self-sufficient.
3. **Parent Education Services at NSSCs** **\$59,774**
The County's Department of Family and Children's Services (DFCS) has expertise in providing parent/child trainings in a variety of areas. The goal of this program will be to work with CalWORKs families to remove barriers/stresses that are preventing the parent from becoming employed, retaining employment or advancing on the job.